

**Developmental Disabilities Council**  
**Self-Determination and Employment Workgroup**  
September 16, 2004 - Spokane

**DRAFT September 16, 2004 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Diana Zottman, Acting Chair, Connee Bush, BJ Flaherty, Mike Raymond, Mike Hatch, Phil Jordan, Sherri Huwe, Rita Wang and Vicki Foster

Staff: Clare Billings and Stephanie Benfield

Call to order/Agenda

Diana called the meeting to order and shared she was filling in as the Chair because Joelle had not been reappointed to the Council. Introductions were made. Connee Bush was welcomed as the new designee for DVR. Connee shared she has a PhD in child development and family systems and a brother that utilizes DVR services.

Approval of Minutes

**Mike Raymond moved the minutes be approved as written; Mike Hatch seconded.** The motion passed, with Connee abstaining because she was not at the last meeting.

### Big Picture Workplan

Staff went over the Big Picture Workplan and noted the workgroup's suggested planning steps for the next state plan are now included in the Workplan.

It was pointed out that in planning for the next state plan the workgroups are not limited to the topic areas currently assigned to them and can discuss other life goal areas and make recommendations to the applicable workgroup.

### Project Updates/Status of Performance Targets,

Staff provided copies of the Advocacy Partnership and Self-Advocacy Initiative final reports for 2003-2004. It was noted that staff from the Arc of Washington would be presenting at the full Council meeting in November.

Staff pointed out outcomes from the two projects, some of the great data they provided in the year-end report and that all of the identified performance targets were met. Significant milestones included the fact that 59% of people who attended Advocacy Day were self-advocates. The Arc is sponsoring a Legislative Action Center, a web based information center that Grier Jewell will be maintaining. The Community Advocacy Coalition is continuing to meet and a smaller group called the Legislative Strategies

group is promoting a new Community Services Initiative (CSI). Both organizations and individuals can join the CSI. CSI is advocating for services in the community.

The Self- Advocacy Initiative project report highlighted the increasing number of self-advocates participating in legislative advocacy and the success of the Self-Advocates in Leadership (SAIL) Coalition getting the Respectful Language Bill passed.

#### State Plan planning next steps:

The state planning steps were reviewed and Diana pointed out that we need to find out more about what is being done for youths between the ages of 18-21 that are being exited out of school without transition services. It was suggested that education advocacy organization should come and talk to the workgroup about what they are working on for this age group, as well as someone from Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Staff noted that because the Council representative from OSPI is in the Health & Education Workgroup it might make sense to meet together to talk about the transition issues.

Connee talked about the DVR General Fund state dollars decision packages that would provide more

flexible funding for transition age kids. She said DVR is asking for 2 or 3 million per year, to provide an ongoing and more flexible funding source to DVR to serve those who might not get served under Order of Selection.

### Funding Request Reading 04-SD-13

Staff suggested the workgroup consider funding a \$5,000 dollar request from the Washington Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities. The request would fund the meeting and activities of a youth club for high school students at Nathan Hale in Seattle.

Rita asked if they have other funds and staff offered to find out how the project was being funded in addition to the request for Council funds. Other members expressed concern about starting something without a clear plan for sustainability.

Sherri said she felt the Council should support advocacy for transition age kids because there isn't much out there for them and with decreased state funding, it would help to fill a gap for families.

After some discussion, Rita moved to approve the funding request on the condition that they provide a more detailed accounting of how the money would be spent and how the effort would be sustained beyond the Council funding.

Mike Hatch seconded. The motion passed with Phil abstaining.

### Auburn Rotary Club Employment Video

The Auburn Rotary employment video was shown and positively received. Members suggested encouraging distribution and viewing of the Rotary video by sending a thank you and to ask Rotary to share their plan for distributing and making sure the video is viewed. Stephanie mentioned that the contract calls for them to report back to us on the number of times it is shown and on employment that results from the efforts.

### School to Work Transition Funding/Advocacy

Diana suggested taking some time at the next meeting to plan to break this topic into discussion pieces. The group agreed that would be helpful. Mike asked if the WorkSource Center Employment project contractors could come and update the workgroup on the progress of the project. Staff agreed to invite Rehabilitation Enterprises of Washington to the November meeting to give a report on their progress and plans for the next contract period.

### Report to the Council

Diana will report at the full Council meeting on the discussions and the decision to fund \$5,000 for Washington Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities youth advocacy project.

### November Agenda:

Worksource Center Employment Project - REW  
Break out Transition/Employment discussion items  
DVR Decision packages  
Report on funding proposal w/ WCCD

Mike Raymond moved that we adjourn. Mike Hatch seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned.